



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

Executive Registry

76-15571

U-0129/DI

20 APR 1976

Honorable George Bush
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C. 20505

**DIA Declassification/Release
Instructions on File**

Dear George,

Reference your letter of 12 April 1976, the "Production of a National Situation Report by the Intelligence Community." This National SITREP can provide decision makers a useful amalgamation of intelligence, provided it allows for worst case and alternative views, and to that extent I fully support its production. I certainly agree it is essential that our departmental chiefs continue to have their own material for use in the National Security Council and similar forums.

What I seriously question is the desirability reflected in para. 4 of your letter, of encouraging the White House and the NSC to receive only the National SITREP. Congressional queries have dealt with the wisdom of decision makers during times of crisis by pointing to the "wise little analyst" in the bowels of some intelligence organization who has been ignored during crisis. Surely we do not want to suggest that the White House can afford to cut off the flow of intelligence from any source during such periods. No matter the efforts of the "analyst intermediaries" with the SITREP Task Force, there will be occasions, driven by cut-off time differences if nothing else, when an Agency SITREP will put forth a slightly different perspective than the latest National SITREP. We should not create procedures which deliberately shut off the White House from such expressions of view which are being disseminated within a department and, in our case, worldwide.

I suggest that we collectively expend the appropriate effort to put out the best possible National SITREPs in the most timely fashion, once you have directed initiation of same, but that we do nothing to stifle the free dissemination of department/agency intelligence coincident with them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to E. F. Tighe, Jr., is written over the typed name.

E. F. TIGHE, JR.
Lieutenant General, USAF
Acting Director